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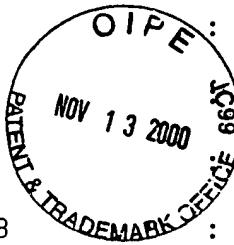
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kanji HATA et al.

Serial No. 09/010,490

Filed January 21, 1998



Docket No. 00177/527415

Group Art Unit 3729

Examiner S. SMITH

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, AND COMPONENT MOUNTING EQUIPMENT

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 11, 2000, the period for response having been extended for three (3) months by the attached petition, please amend the present application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly cancel claims 12 and 16-17 without pre-indication disclaimer thereof.

Kindly amend claim 8 as follows:

8. (Thrice Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:  
a pair of component supply tables for accommodating a plurality of components, said component supply tables being arranged on opposite sides of a board mounting position; <sup>(16)</sup> *fig. 1*

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